



Serial No.: 09/814,066

#31A
Aug 8
2001 (52)
--1--

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Docket No. 20551/I/JR (704001AA)

F. Knauseder

Serial No.: 09/814,066

Group Art Unit: No. Unassigned

Filed: March 22, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: **FLOORING PANELS**

Box: Non-final amendment

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 as follows. A clean copy of amended claims 3-10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 is provided in the attached separate sheet, entitled "Clean Copy of Claims."

3. (Amended) A configuration according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the grooves of the individual panels, specifically at least one of the lateral groove areas, are provided with a filling, coating, covering[,] or strand, [or the like, consisting of] comprising a latent adhesive material that becomes active after appropriate activation, and the tongues, specifically at least one of their side areas, is provided with a coating or surface impregnation, a covering[,] or strand[, or the like that,] if so desired,) is applied to the panels and [ideally] moistens them shortly before they are joined together and [consists of] comprises an activator which induces adhesion.